GOLD KEY
SOLAR
12c
DOCTOR SOLAR
MAN OF THE ATOM
10000-501
JANUARY
A panic-stricken world turns on Solar transformed into a monstrous giant!

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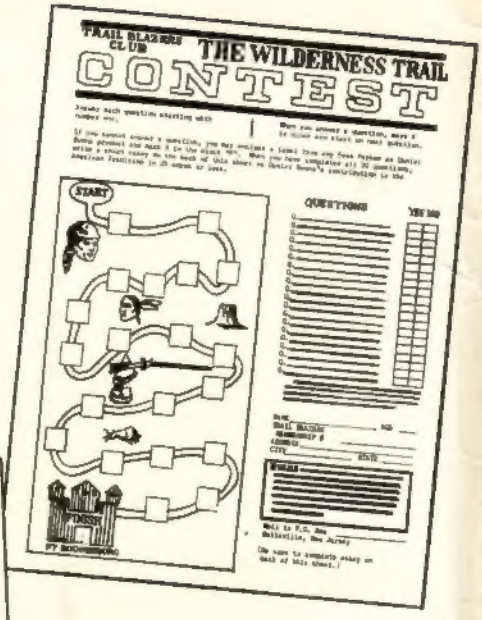

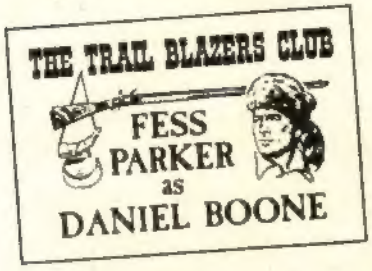

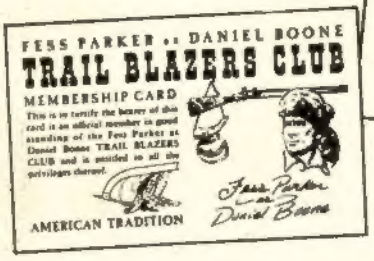

FESS PARKER as DANIEL BOONE

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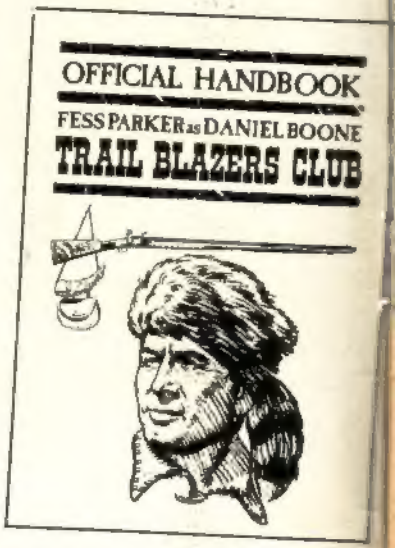

DOCTOR SOLAR

THE SUN GIANT

THE SHOCKS BEGAN AT 5:43 ON A MONDAY MORNING, WRENCHING THE ARCTIC CIRCLE WITH CONVULSIVE SPASMS! THE EARTH'S CRUST CRACKED LIKE PEANUT BRITTLE FROM SPITSBERGEN, NORWAY TO POINT BARROW, ALASKA...

...AND ACROSS THE VAST POLAR ICE CAP BETWEEN THEM...

CRA-A-A-A-C-C-E-E-CK!

CRACK!

AROOOO!

SPLEW-W-W!

SOLAR 10-6410

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IN THE AIR, ARCTIC PATROL PLANES SPOTTED THE RESULTS ALMOST IMMEDIATELY...
THE CAP'S BROKEN UP LIKE CHRISTMAS CANDY--IF THOSE CONTINENTS OF ICE EVER SHAKE LOOSE...!
U.S. AIR FORCE
63946

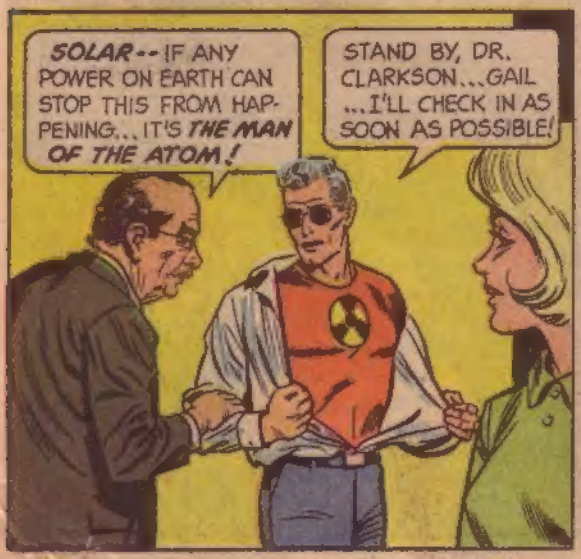
IN THE SEA, THE "BIG BERG" SCOUTS SENSED THE DANGER AT ONCE...
RENTS AND FISSURES ALL OVER THE CAP...(WHEW!)
IF IT EVER TEARS LOOSE, IT'LL MAKE ICE FLOES A HUNDRED MILES LONG!

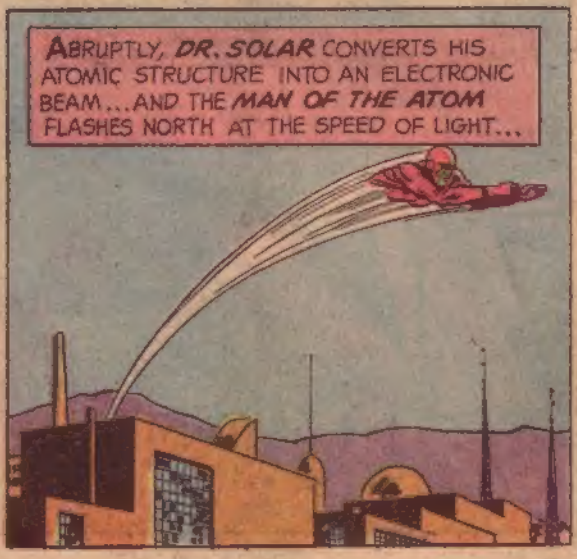
EVEN IF THEY BREAK UP, THE OCEANS WILL BE POLKA-DOTTED WITH A MILLION ICE MOUNTAINS!
IT'S TOO BIG FOR US! THIS IS TOP PRIORITY--WASHINGTON STUFF!

AND ON LAND A RED ALERT IS SOON FLASHED TO ATOM VALLEY...
IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE, DR. CLARKSON?--CAN THE POLAR CAP BECOME... UNHINGED?
I'M AFRAID IT'S MORE PROBABLE THAN POSSIBLE, GAIL...

THE 9.6 MAGNITUDE OF THAT QUAKE WAS THE STRONGEST EVER RECORDED -- THE FORCE ACTUALLY SPLINTERED THE POLAR CAP LIKE A PICK IN A CAKE OF ICE!
AND ANY SHIFT IN THE POLAR CAP COULD SEND GREAT ISLANDS OF ICE DRIFTING INTO THE LAND AREAS!
NO POWER ON EARTH COULD STOP IT, SOLAR...
"THEY WOULD BE CONTINENTS OF ICE ON THE MOVE! FIRST, THEY WOULD STRIKE THE ARCTIC CIRCLE ISLANDS... PRINCE PATRICK...SVERDRUP..."

"THEN, THE MONSTROUS SUPER GLACIER WOULD CRUSH INTO OUR NORTHWEST TERRITORIES... DEEP INTO THE LAND MASSES OF CANADA...
"THE FORCE BEHIND A BILLION YEARS OF PACKED POLAR ICE WOULD BE INCREDIBLE!... WHOLE CONTINENTS WOULD BE SHIFTED... IN ONE TERRIBLE UPHEAVAL MAN WOULD BE CATAPULTED BACK INTO THE ICE AGE..."

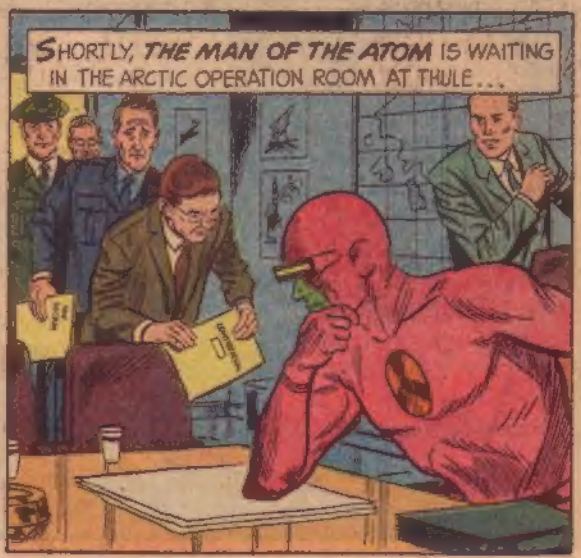

SOLAR--IF ANY POWER ON EARTH CAN STOP THIS FROM HAPPENING... IT'S THE MAN OF THE ATOM!
STAND BY, DR. CLARKSON...GAIL ...I'LL CHECK IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!


ABRUPTLY, DR. SOLAR CONVERTS HIS ATOMIC STRUCTURE INTO AN ELECTRONIC BEAM... AND THE MAN OF THE ATOM FLASHES NORTH AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT...

OVER LABRADOR, AS A MILITARY TRANSPORT JETS TOWARD THE ARCTIC...
T-THUNDERATION! WHAT WAS THAT, GENERAL?

THE NUCLEAR LIGHT BEAM THAT TRANSPORTS THE MAN OF THE ATOM, COLONEL BASS...

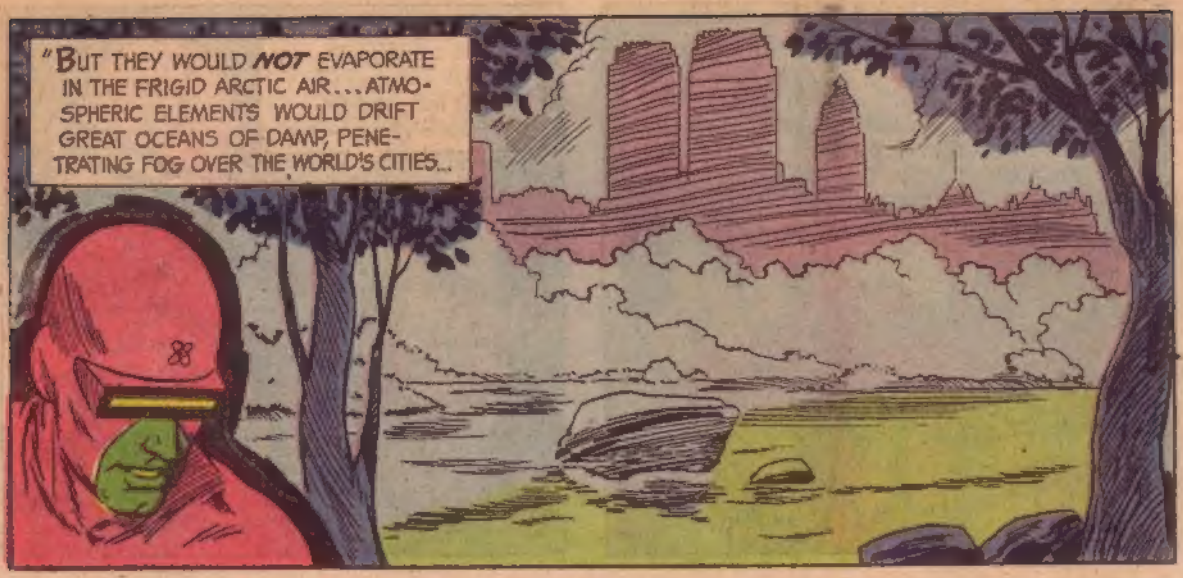
WASHINGTON APPEALED TO ATOM VALLEY FOR HIS HELP--HE'LL SIT IN ON THE BRIEFING WITH US AT THULE!
HMM! WE'LL NEED ANY HELP WE CAN GET TO SOLVE "OPERATION POLAR CAP," I SUPPOSE!

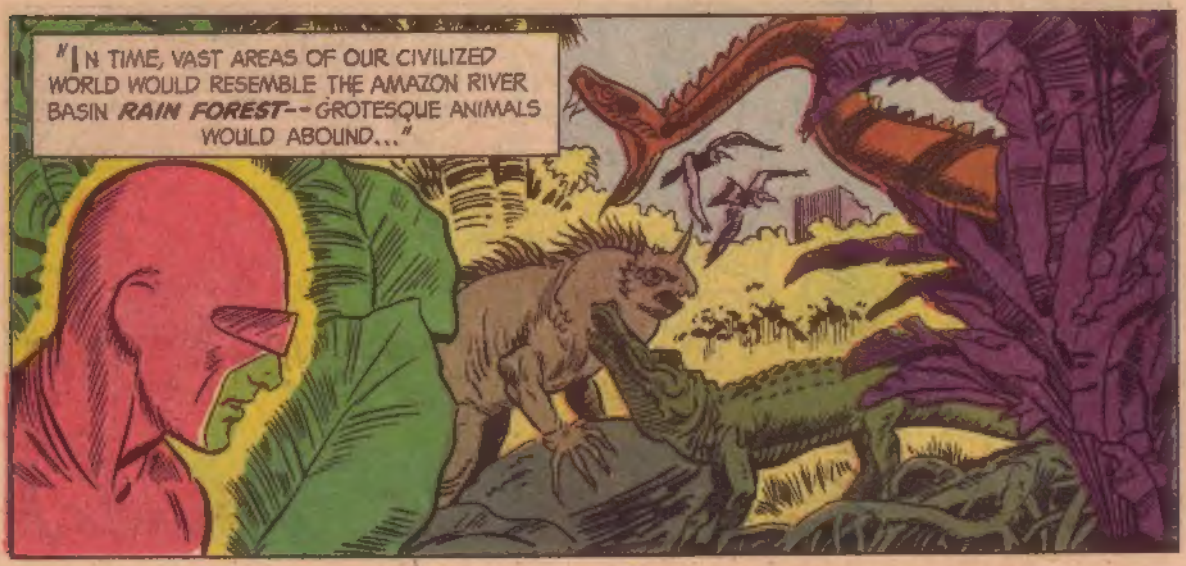

SHORTLY, THE MAN OF THE ATOM IS WAITING IN THE ARCTIC OPERATION ROOM AT THULE...

HOUR AFTER HOUR, TENSE MEN OF SCIENCE CONFER WITH THE MILITARY...
DEVIL TAKE THE TEST BAN ON ATOMIC WEAPONS!--IF THEY'LL SAVE CIVILIZATION LET'S USE THEM!
BUT THEY WON'T, GENERAL! IT WOULD TAKE A HUNDRED H-BOMBS TO DO THE JOB--WE'D HAVE TO POLLUTE THE ATMOSPHERE!

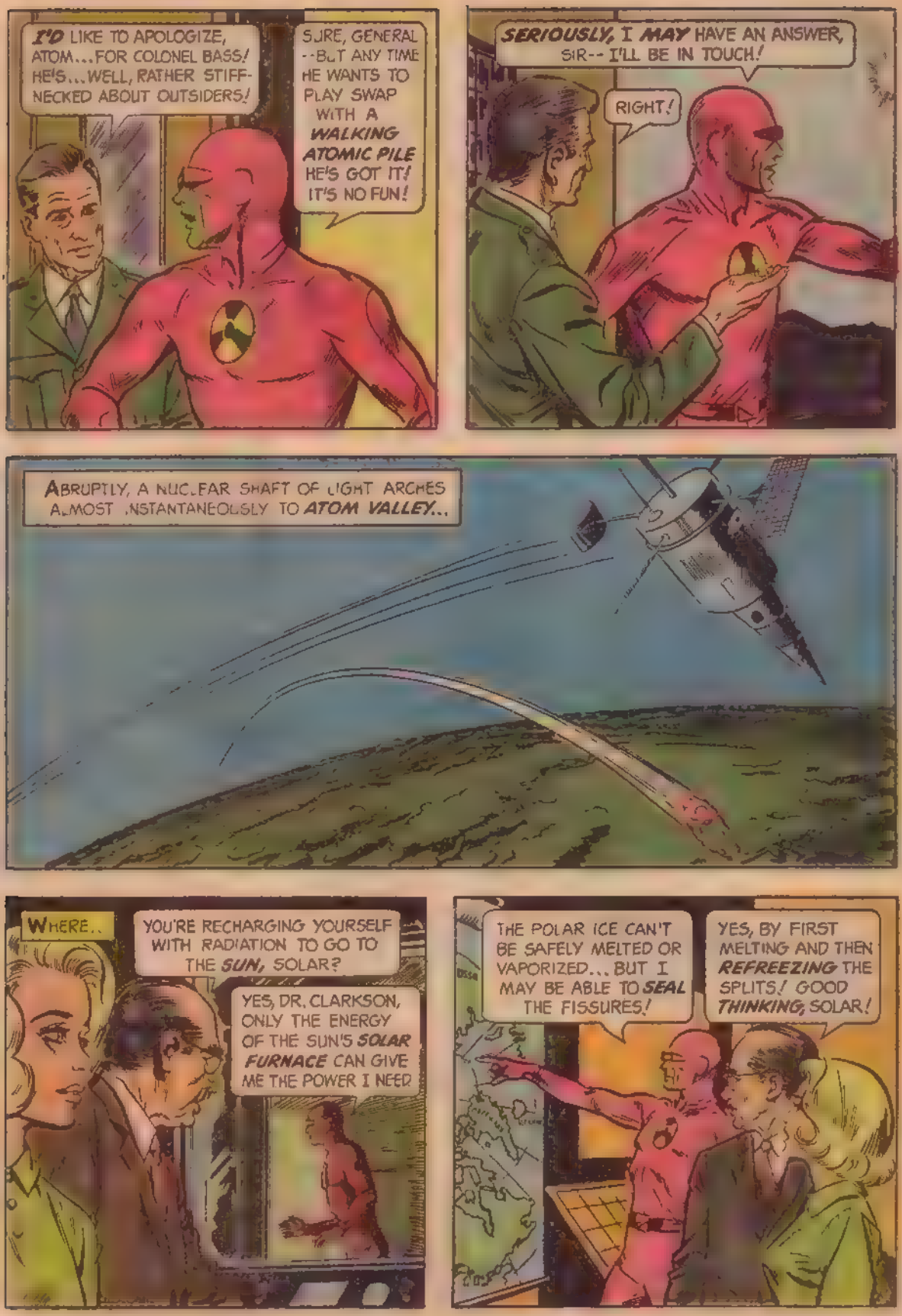
WELL, MAN OF THE ATOM, IF THAT'S WHAT THEY CALL YOU--YOU'VE BEEN SILENT/ I GATHER ELIMINATING THE POLAR CAP STUMPS YOUR POWERS ALSO/
NOT EXACTLY, COLONEL...
I MIGHT GENERATE ENOUGH ATOMIC HEAT TO MELT 70% OF THE CAP, WHICH SHOULD DO THE TRICK...
WITHOUT CREATING ANY DANGER OF RADIATION TO THE WORLD I COULD PROBABLY ACCOMPLISH THE JOB IN THE MORNING...
BUT THE RESULTS WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC-- THE MELTED ICE WOULD RAISE WATERS TEN TO TWENTY FEET FROM MAINE TO FLORIDA... BOSTON WOULD RISE OUT OF A LAKE...

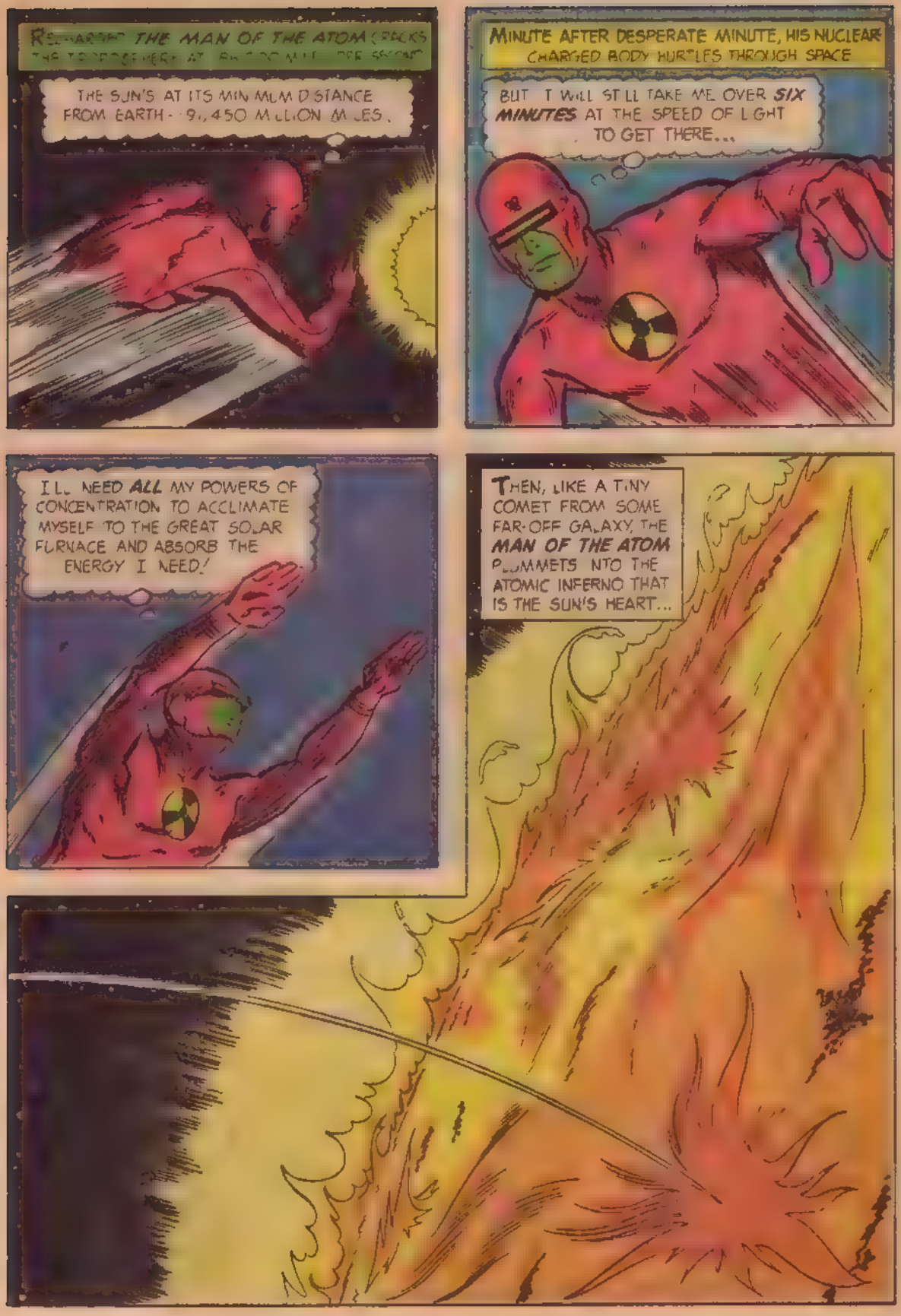
I ASSUME THE GOOD COLONEL BASS WOULD NOT WISH TO EXCHANGE A SLOW-MOVING GLACIER FOR A RAPID-RUNNING FLOOD!
WHY, YOU FLIP-PANT FREAK! WHY DON'T YOU VAPORIZE THE ICE THEN?
I WAS ABOUT TO EXPLAIN THAT PROBLEM TO THE CALMER MILITARY HEADS, COLONEL!
"FREAK" THAT I AM, GENTLEMEN, I COULD CONVERT MY BODY INTO A SEARING ATOMIC INFERNO ATOP THE POLAR CAP...
"WHEN I RADIATED HEAT WAVES REACHING 212°F THE POLAR ICE WOULD BE TURNED INTO GREAT SEAS OF STEAM...


"BUT THEY WOULD NOT EVAPORATE IN THE FRIGID ARCTIC AIR... ATMOSPHERIC ELEMENTS WOULD DRIFT GREAT OCEANS OF DAMP, PENETRATING FOG OVER THE WORLD'S CITIES...

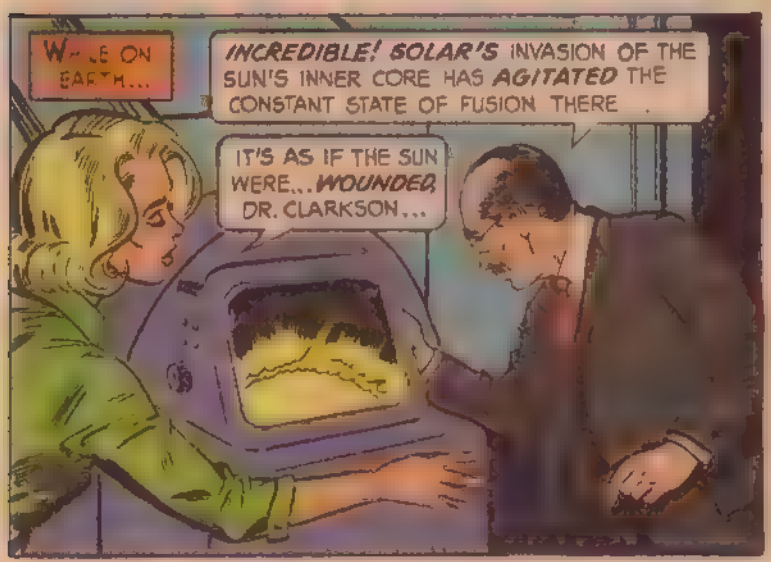

"IN TIME, VAST AREAS OF OUR CIVILIZED WORLD WOULD RESEMBLE THE AMAZON RIVER BASIN RAIN FOREST--GROTESQUE ANIMALS WOULD ABOUND..."

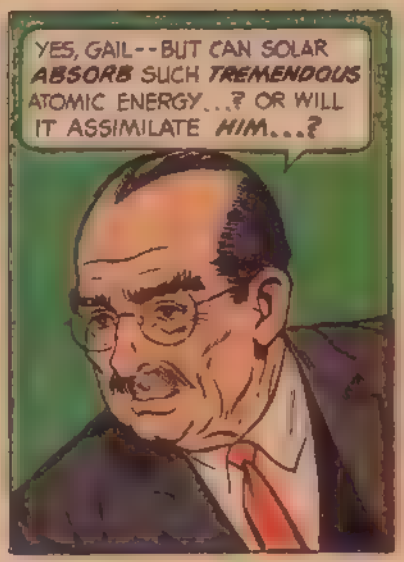
I'D LIKE TO APOLOGIZE TO THE GENTLEMEN OF SCIENCE HERE — I REALIZE, OF COURSE, YOU HAVE REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSIONS!
HEH, HEH! YOU WERE PRACTICALLY GOADED INTO STEALING OUR THUNDER, MAN OF THE ATOM!

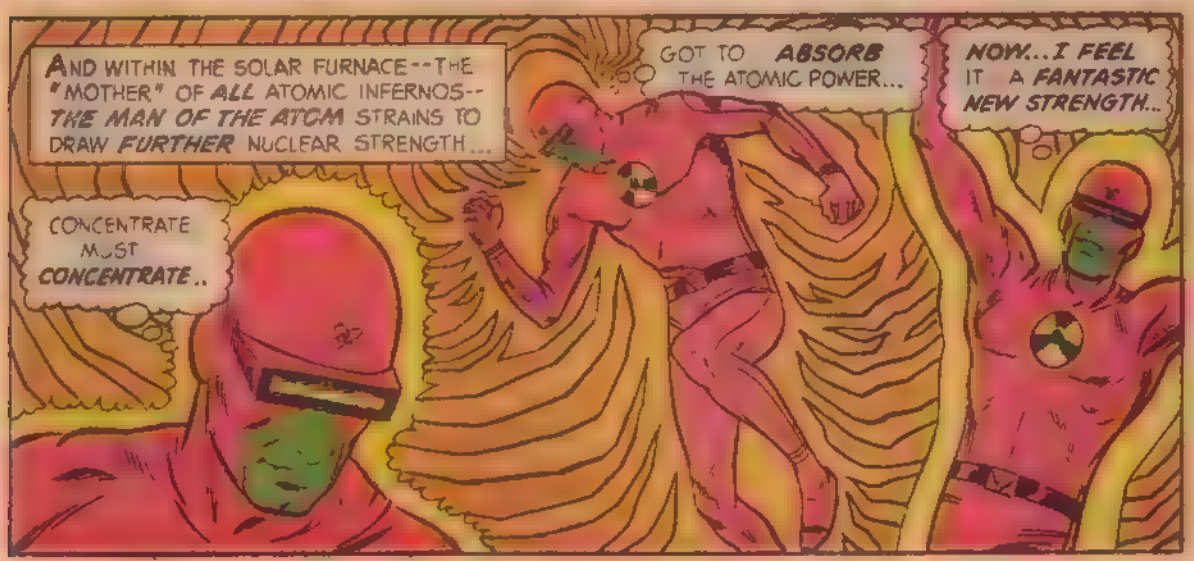

I'D LIKE TO APOLOGIZE, ATOM...FOR COLONEL BASS! HE'S...WELL, RATHER STIFF-NECKED ABOUT OUTSIDERS!
SURE, GENERAL --BUT ANY TIME HE WANTS TO PLAY SWAP WITH A WALKING ATOMIC PILE HE'S GOT IT! IT'S NO FUN!
SERIOUSLY, I MAY HAVE AN ANSWER, SIR-- I'LL BE IN TOUCH!
RIGHT!
ABRUPTLY, A NUCLEAR SHAFT OF LIGHT ARCHES ALMOST INSTANTANEOUSLY TO ATOM VALLEY...
WHERE..
YOU'RE RECHARGING YOURSELF WITH RADIATION TO GO TO THE SUN, SOLAR?
YES, DR. CLARKSON, ONLY THE ENERGY OF THE SUN'S SOLAR FURNACE CAN GIVE ME THE POWER I NEED
THE POLAR ICE CAN'T BE SAFELY MELTED OR VAPORIZED... BUT I MAY BE ABLE TO SEAL THE FISSURES!
YES, BY FIRST MELTING AND THEN REFREEZING THE SPLITS! GOOD THINKING, SOLAR!


THE MAN OF THE ATOM
THE SUN'S AT ITS MINIMUM DISTANCE FROM EARTH - 91,450 MILLION MILES.
MINUTE AFTER DESPERATE MINUTE, HIS NUCLEAR CHARGED BODY HURTLES THROUGH SPACE
BUT IT WILL STILL TAKE ME OVER SIX MINUTES AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT TO GET THERE...
I'LL NEED ALL MY POWERS OF CONCENTRATION TO ACCLIMATE MYSELF TO THE GREAT SOLAR FURNACE AND ABSORB THE ENERGY I NEED!
THEN, LIKE A TINY COMET FROM SOME FAR-OFF GALAXY, THE MAN OF THE ATOM PLUMMETS INTO THE ATOMIC INFERNO THAT IS THE SUN'S HEART...

ABRUPTLY A CATACLYSMIC ERUPTION SPEWS SOLAR PROMINENCES 200,000 MILES INTO SPACE


WHILE ON EARTH...
INCREDIBLE! SOLAR'S INVASION OF THE SUN'S INNER CORE HAS AGITATED THE CONSTANT STATE OF FUSION THERE
IT'S AS IF THE SUN WERE...WOUNDED, DR. CLARKSON...

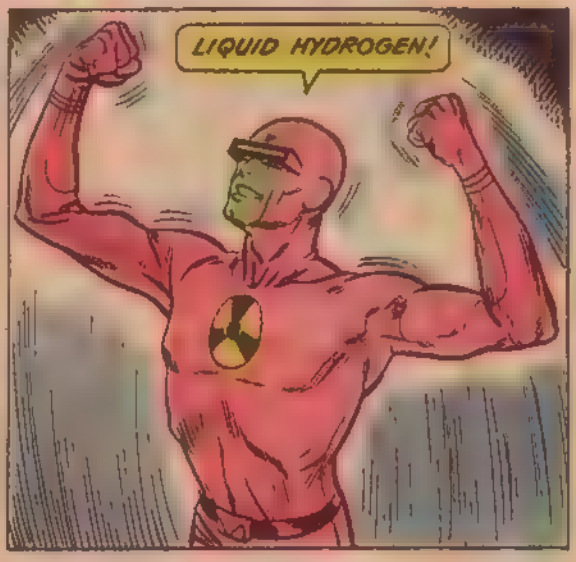

YES, GAIL--BUT CAN SOLAR ABSORB SUCH TREMENDOUS ATOMIC ENERGY...? OR WILL IT ASSIMILATE HIM...?


AND WITHIN THE SOLAR FURNACE--THE "MOTHER" OF ALL ATOMIC INFERNOS--THE MAN OF THE ATOM STRAINS TO DRAW FURTHER NUCLEAR STRENGTH...
CONCENTRATE MUST CONCENTRATE..
GOT TO ABSORB THE ATOMIC POWER...
NOW...I FEEL IT A FANTASTIC NEW STRENGTH..

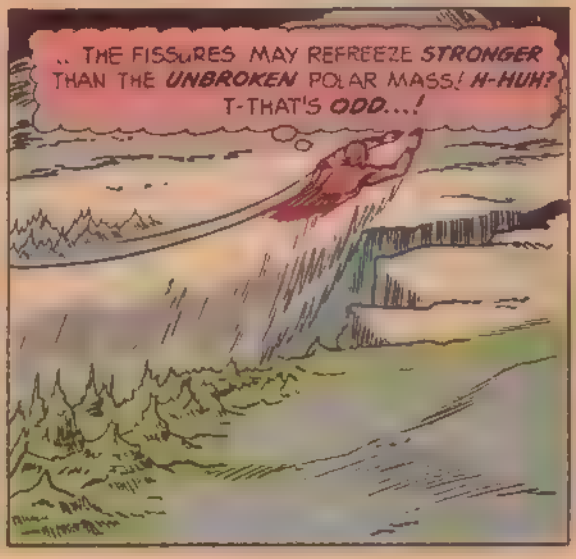
I-I FEEL THE MIGHT OF THE [illegible] WITHIN ME... REFRESHED ...NEW-BORN...
W-WHY, THE EARTH EVEN LOOKS SMALLER ...I'M SURE I'VE ABSORBED MORE THAN ENOUGH ENERGY TO SEAL THE POLAR CAP...
GOT TO DIRECT THE HEAT CAREFULLY...IT MUST SEAR DEEP INTO THE FISSURES
THEY GO DOWN THOUSANDS OF FEET...EACH FOOT MUST BE MELTED IF I'M TO CEMENT THE CAP TOGETHER SAFELY...

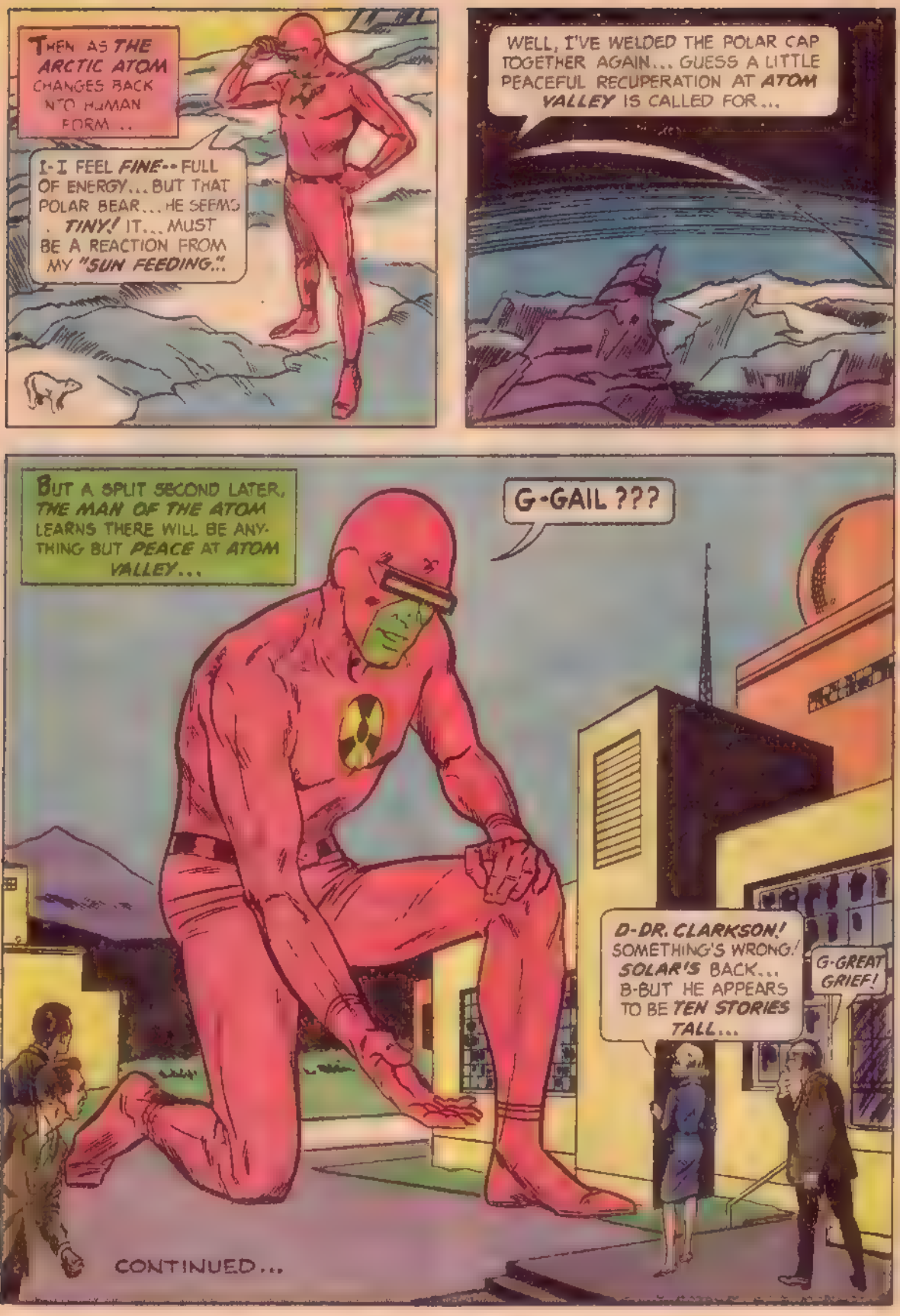
THE PENETRATING HEAT RAYS OF THE REVITALIZED MAN OF THE ATOM CREATE MELTING DEEP WITHIN THE FROZEN STRATA...

THEN, WITHIN MINUTES..
FIRST STAGE COMPLETE... NOW TO REFREEZE THE FISSURES, I MUST CONVERT MY ATOMIC ENERGY INTO ONE OF THE COLDEST ELEMENTS KNOWN...


LIQUID HYDROGEN!

ONCE AGAIN, A STREAKING FORM CRISS-CROSSES THE ARCTIC WASTES, AND..


.. THE FISSURES MAY REFREEZE STRONGER THAN THE UNBROKEN POLAR MASS! H-HUH? T-THAT'S ODD...!


THEN AS THE ARCTIC ATOM CHANGES BACK INTO HUMAN FORM...
I-I FEEL FINE-- FULL OF ENERGY... BUT THAT POLAR BEAR... HE SEEMS TINY! IT... MUST BE A REACTION FROM MY "SUN FEEDING"...
WELL, I'VE WELDED THE POLAR CAP TOGETHER AGAIN... GUESS A LITTLE PEACEFUL RECUPERATION AT ATOM VALLEY IS CALLED FOR...
BUT A SPLIT SECOND LATER, THE MAN OF THE ATOM LEARNS THERE WILL BE ANYTHING BUT PEACE AT ATOM VALLEY...
G-GAIL ???
D-DR. CLARKSON! SOMETHING'S WRONG! SOLAR'S BACK... B-BUT HE APPEARS TO BE TEN STORIES TALL...
G-GREAT GRIEF!
CONTINUED...

SOLAR'S SCIENCE FORUM

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I enjoy Doctor Solar very much! Why does he wear tinted glasses? I am most anxious to know.

ROBBIE ROSS
RR 2
Penticton, B.C.

Solar wears tinted glasses to protect people around him from deadly radiation being emitted from his eyes.

I think in the July edition when the giant hand lunged for Gail, Solar should have left it alone to see if the hand could hurt her. If she couldn't see the hand, how could it hurt her? I have just started reading Doctor Solar, and I think the letters are just great. Where does Solar get his radioactive pills? Can he bore through rock? How strong is he?

MARILENE JOHNSTON
Box 169
Bridgeport, W.Va.

Sometimes the things you can't see can hurt you the most. That's why you shouldn't cross a street without looking! Solar makes his own radioactive pills in the labs at Atom Valley. He is strong enough to bore through rock—or travel through space to the sun.

I think that Doctor Solar #6 was great when Nuro created a human-like android to destroy Solar. The battle with the robot was great. Doctor Solar, Man Of The Atom #6 was the first Solar I got. But I have #7 and #8. In Solar #7, page 5, panel 2, what is that thing?

JOSEPH SCAMARDELLA
21 Biltmore St.
Springfield, Mass.

In Solar's search for the missing Atomiscaphe, he swept the ocean floor with radar-like impulses. The picture you asked about is of Solar's eye at the moment of discovery.

Why don't you put Solar on TV?

PHIL STEED
1815 Jackson
Joplin, Mo.

Now there's a good question!

I think Doctor Solar is going to become one of the most famous heroes since the origin of Superman. Now Doctor Solar has even taken a place above him. I like your magazine very much although I just read it for the first time in January. Will you please have him appear with Supetman or some other super-hero? I think it would make him more famous.

MIKE CARTWRIGHT
1405 N. Main St.
Shelbyville, Tenn.

Who?

Both my sister and I want to congratulate you on the excellent job you do with Doctor Solar. Although my parents won't let me buy too many comics, I think Doctor Solar is the best comic published. Now, since you have created a stunning costume for Solar, I think he is the best in all the comics. I also think someone should put him on TV. You could introduce another villain besides Nuro to improve your comic. I think outer space is an appropriate setting for Solar, but I don't think he should battle space aliens. Also, Professor Harbinger is great. I like the way you always have a catching sentence at the end.

JIM SNYDER
1402 Washington Ave.
Tacoma, Wash.

I am a teenager and I read many comic books. Of them all, I think Doctor Solar is the best comic selling today. I think you should be congratulated on it. I think this mainly because in a place such as Atom Valley, an accident such as what happened to Solar could possibly change a man into a being like the Man Of The Atom. In other words, somewhere, somehow, there could be a man like Solar alive today. One thing bothers me, though: in issue #8 for July, how could a giant hand or a flock of birds hold Solar in the air if they were only in his imagination? Another thing: If the Man Of The Atom wears his uniform under his clothes, where does he keep his red headgear with its hard visor?

DAVID WRIGHT
29 Moore Ave.
Guelphh, Ont.

Imagination is a strange thing which few people really understand. In this case, all that happened to Solar happened in his mind and not in reality. But the power of his imagination was strong enough to drain him of his physical energy. Solar's headgear can be made into a compact package which he can carry unnoticed. Ordinarily, though, he keeps it at

Atom Valley, since he rarely leaves there as Solar the scientist.

I read your first magazine, your fourth and the most recent, the eighth. I would like to know when and how Solar revealed his secret identity and told Gail and Dr. Clarkson who he was. I have just finished "The Thought Controller" and am proud to send you my congratulations. It was excellent. I only wish your great comic was published more often. Please don't have any space aliens in Doctor Solar. Yours is the most real-life comic. Please keep it that way.

DANA GUTHRIE
4117 Daley Ave.
Fort Worth, Texas

Doctor Clarkson knew about Solar's unusual powers as soon as Solar himself. They worked together immediately after the accident in the reactor. Gail discovered Solar's secret some time later when he decided to tell her. It was at the same time that he designed his now-famous uniform and assumed his alter ego, The Man Of The Atom.

I think Solar's powers are just great. But can he turn into a life-living force instead of turning into something scientific? Why didn't those men in issue #8 know Nuro's name? Were they drugged? How could a small machine have those big claws and feet? I think there should be some changes like: 1. Solar should have at least one companion. It should be Gail. 2. I think The Man Of The Atom should have something to sense danger. 3. He should have green slacks, green shoes with no shoestring and red shirt.

BOB STONE
112 Dodson St
Ft. Huachuca, Ariz

Solar is capable of converting the matter in his body into forms of energy. In a way, this is a living force rather than something scientific. He can not, of course, turn himself into an animal like a tiger.—He's not a magician Nuro's own men know nothing about him, including his name. He has ways of making them work for him without revealing himself to them. Only the trusted Aral Uzbek knows anything about Nuro. And even he knows very little! The machine that played tricks with Solar's mind didn't actually grow claws and feet. Like the giant hand, this happened only in Solar's imagination.

I thought that if you got radioactive you would die. About the thought controller: Did Solar ever find Nuro? How does Solar's suit help him? How can he transmute himself into nuclear heat?

JOEY PATTERSON
128 Chickamauga
Chattanooga, Tenn.

Radioactivity is a killer, but in Solar's case, it converted his body into a living isotope. As a result he is able to convert the matter in his body into energy. Because he is always giving off deadly radiation, his suit has been made of a material that helps shield others from its effects. Until now, Solar hasn't found Nuro, although a face-to-face meeting is not impossible.

In the July issue of Doctor Solar, in the story of the Thought Controller, in all the pictures of Solar using his powers he was green. But on the page before the Science Forum, he was yellow. This was also true of the first page after Professor Harbinger. Is this because of the overexertion of his atomic powers? I think your comic would be better if it were published more often. It's already the best comic on the market. Even my Mother reads it occasionally.

JOHN HOGAN
1609 Fenton
Lakewood, Col.

What! Solar yellow? It must have been the reflection from the helicopter.

I am ten years old and a lover of science. My favorite branch of science is chemistry. I like your issues very much. I have wondered why when you were near the atomic pile, you weren't killed by the radioactive rays. I like the idea of a Doctor Solar Fan Club. How can I make my friends think it is good and join the club?

JEFFREY METLER
115 N. 20th St
Olean, N.Y.

You can start by telling them where they can buy Doctor Solar Comics!

When Doctor Solar first came out, I thought it was one of the finest comics printed because, mainly, the artwork was excellent and the plots original. I liked the way D.S. was a uniformless hero instead of one who wore a costume and had the usual dull alter ego. But now, ever since The Man Of The Atom came into existence, both the artwork and story have slumped. I don't know whether you've changed your artist or whether he's trying to change his style. But the issues from #5 on have been terrible compared to the first four. Also, now that The Man Of The Atom has become the main character, Dr. Solar seems to be slipping into the dull daily life of most alter egos. This is ruining the comic by making it just like any other one with a common unoriginal hero. I hope you don't continue with this.

LARRY TALBOT
Little Falls, N.J

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?

It's not possible to answer each and every letter, but we welcome your ideas and suggestions.

Address your mail to:

DOCTOR SOLAR
K.K. Publications, Inc.
Poughkeepsie, New York, 12601

Professor Harbinger

MYSTERY SIGNALS FROM SPACE

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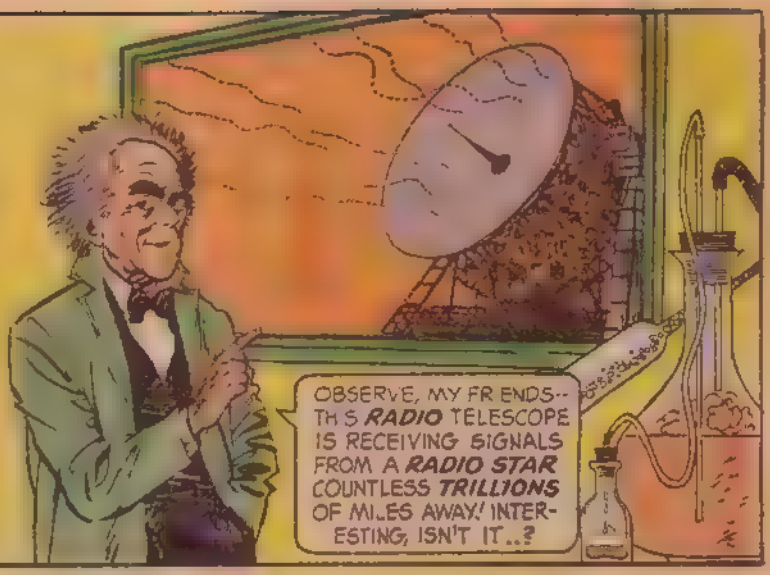
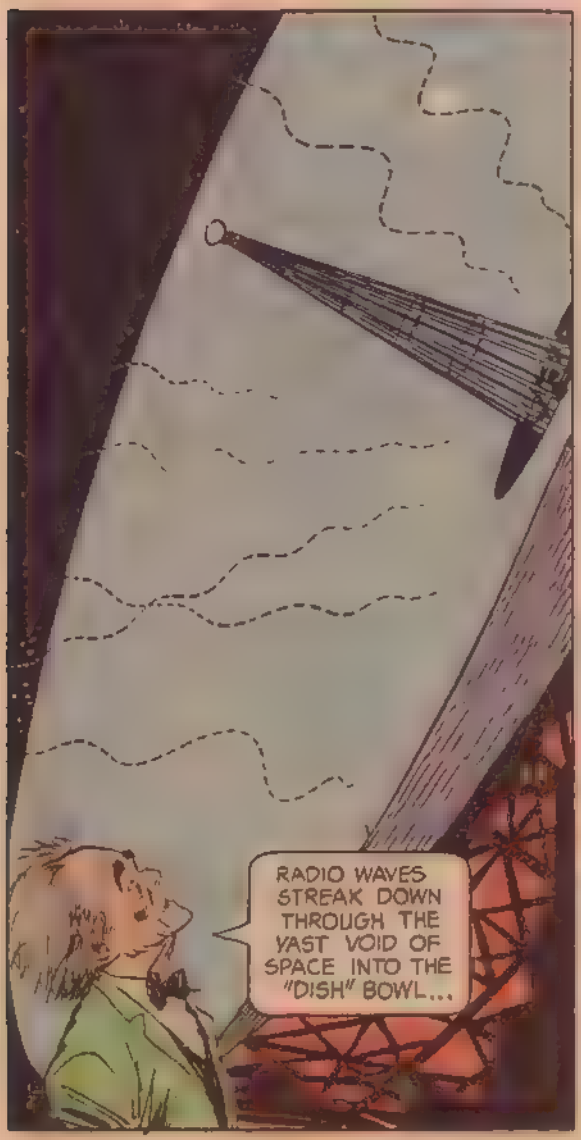
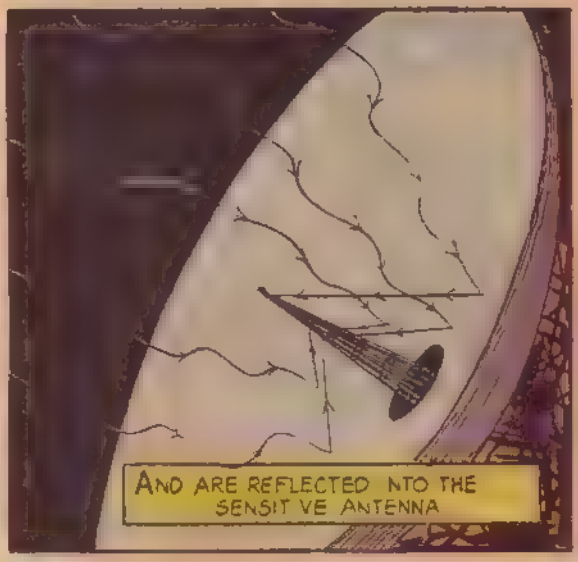
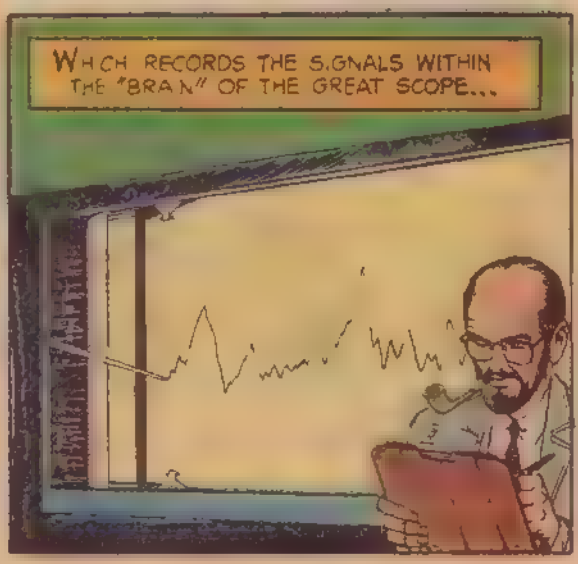
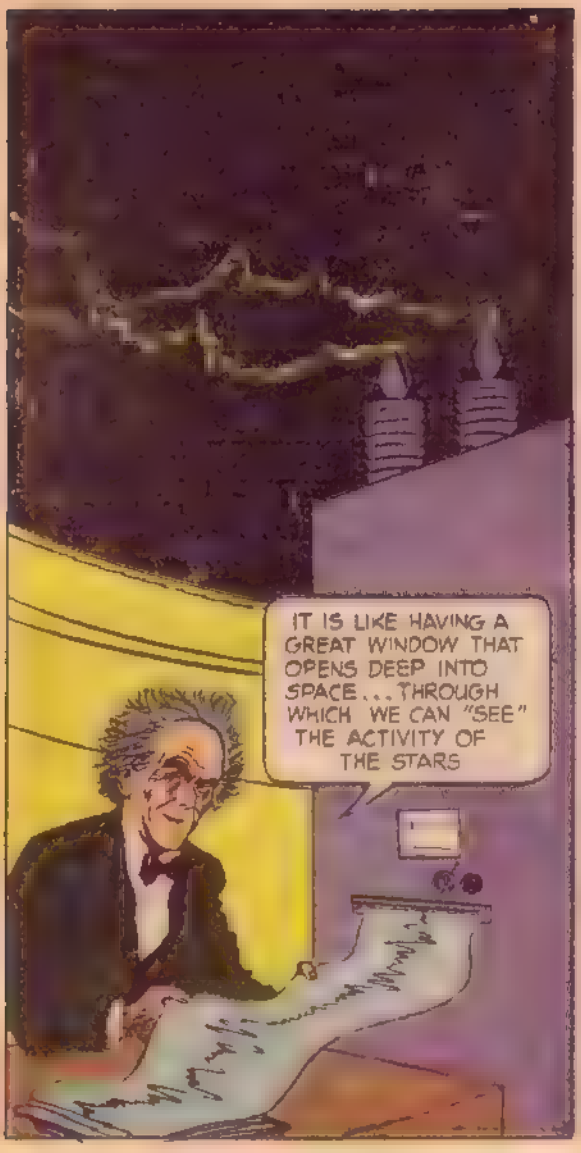
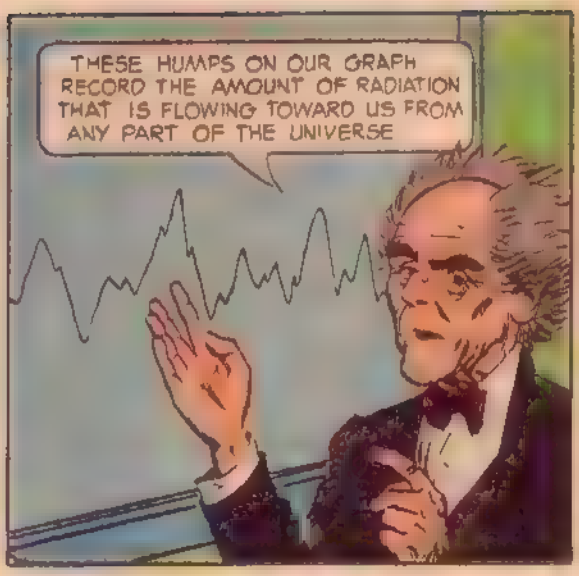

OBSERVE, MY FRIENDS-- THIS RADIO TELESCOPE IS RECEIVING SIGNALS FROM A RADIO STAR COUNTLESS TRILLIONS OF MILES AWAY! INTERESTING, ISN'T IT..?



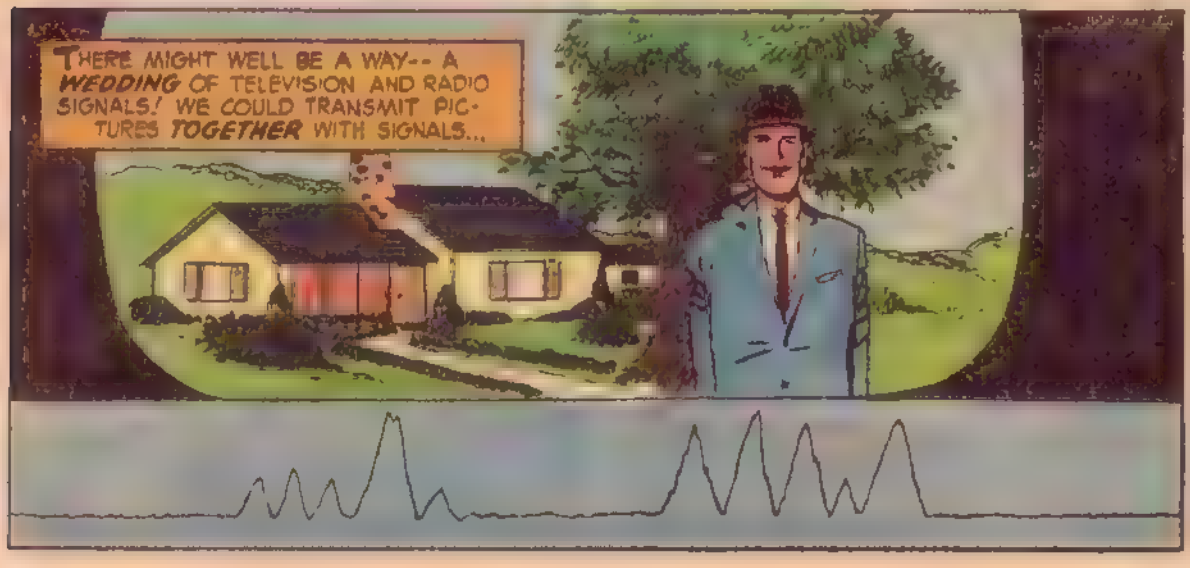


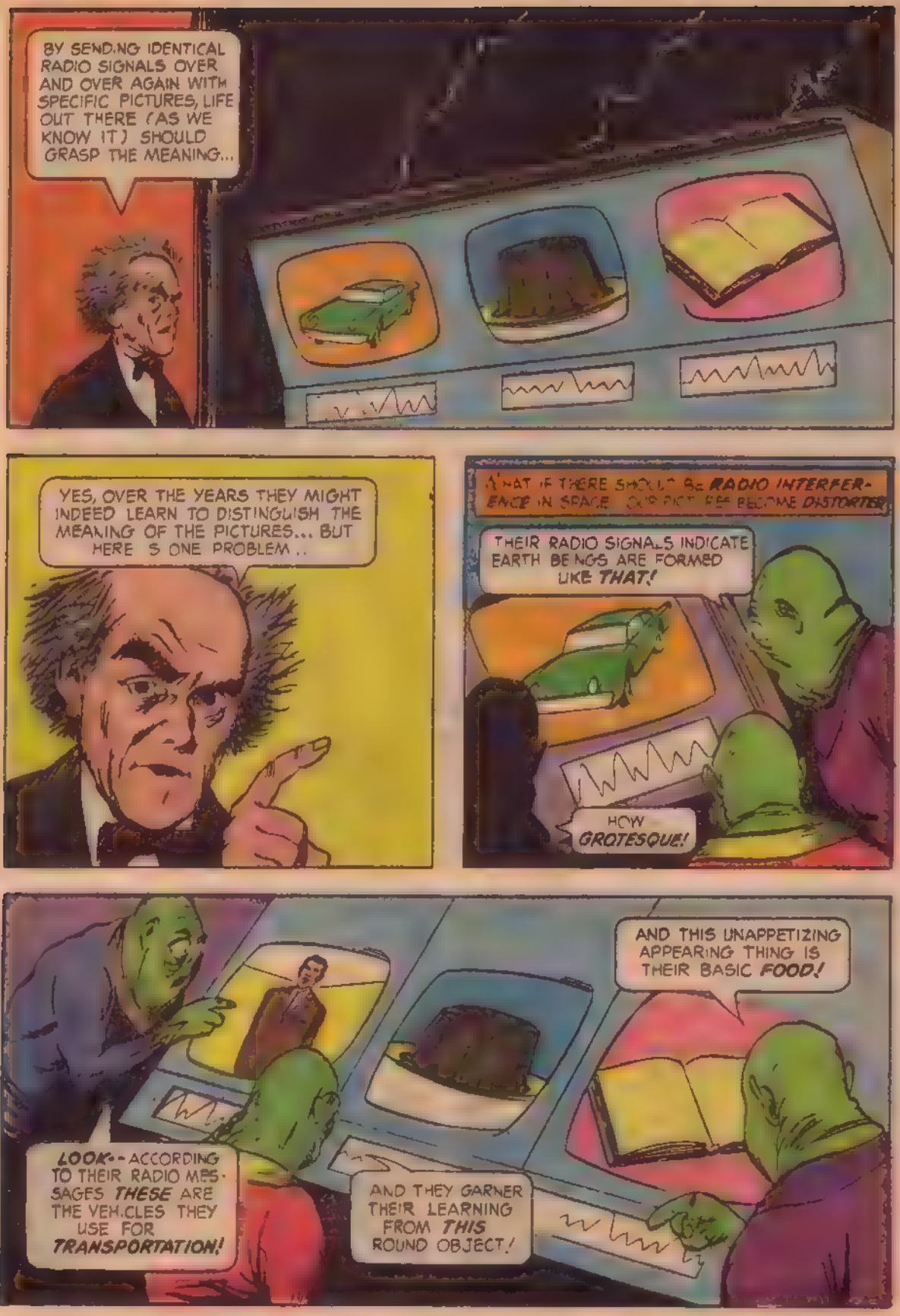



IT IS LIKE HAVING A GREAT WINDOW THAT OPENS DEEP INTO SPACE... THROUGH WHICH WE CAN "SEE" THE ACTIVITY OF THE STARS

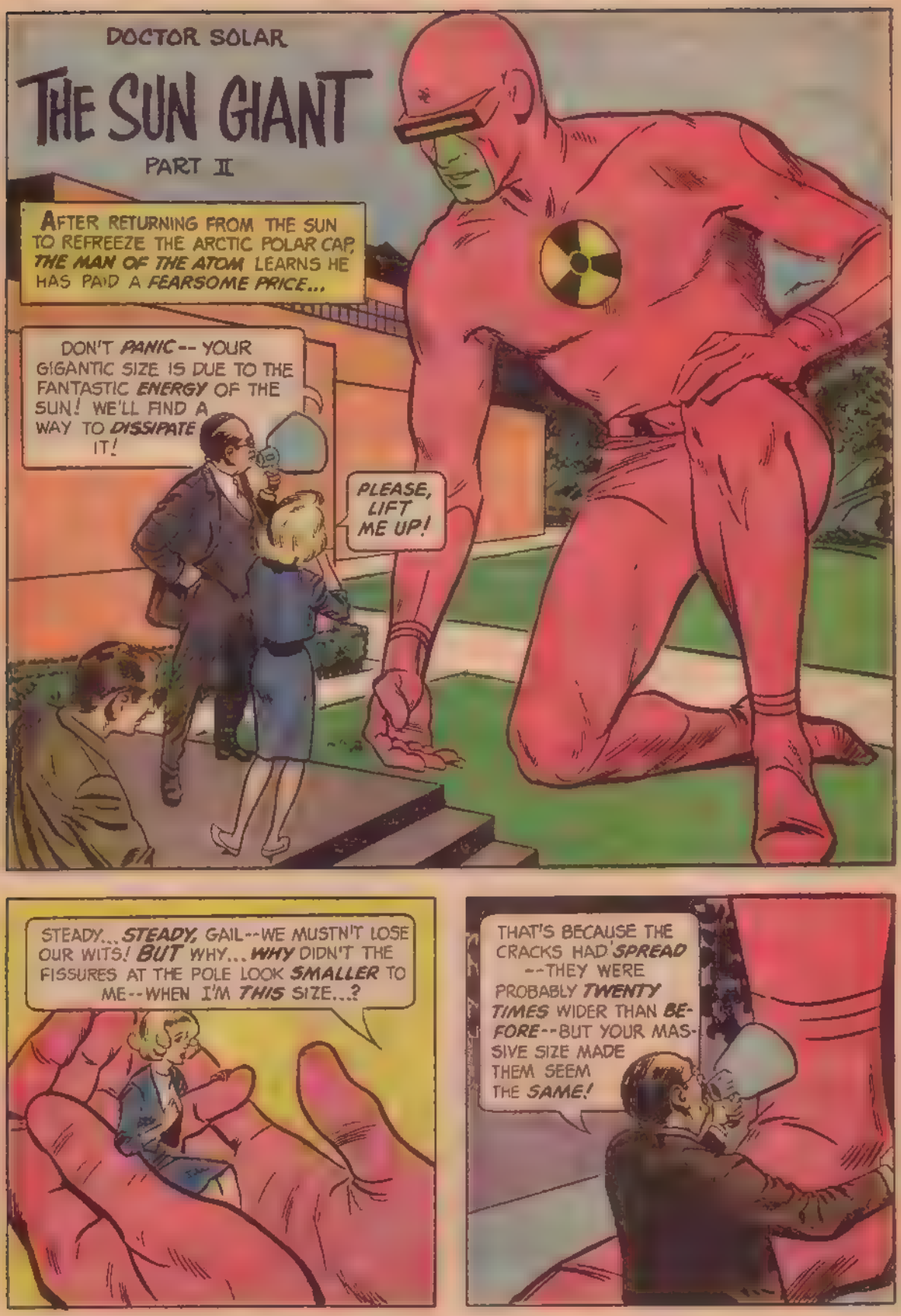

THESE HUMPS ON OUR GRAPH RECORD THE AMOUNT OF RADIATION THAT IS FLOWING TOWARD US FROM ANY PART OF THE UNIVERSE

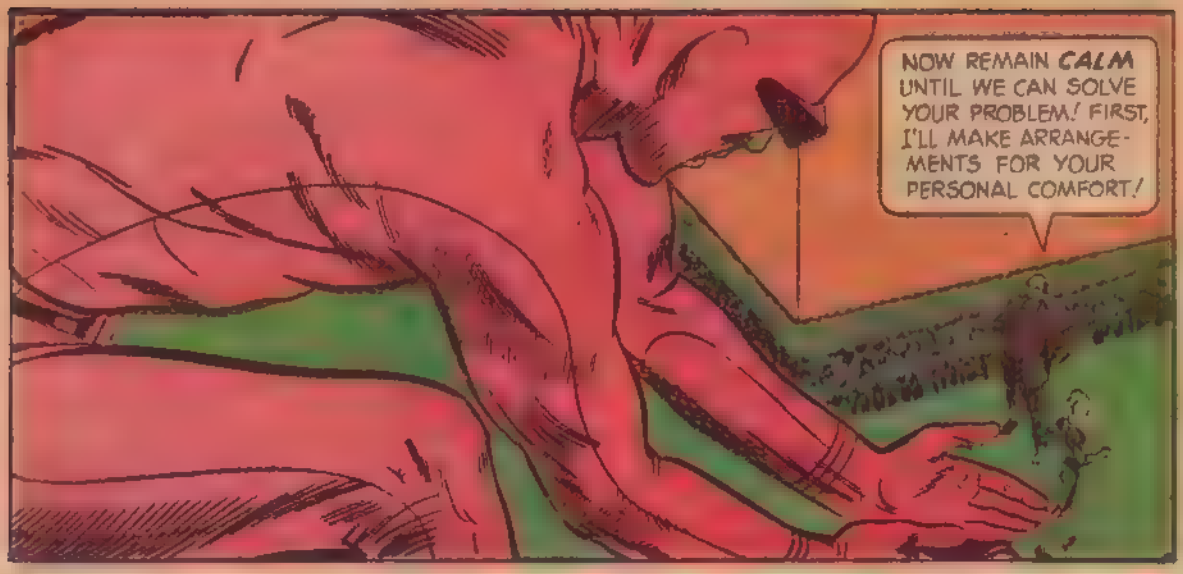
BUT WHAT ABOUT *OTHER* "MESSAGES"-- RADIO CONTACT WITH LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE? COULD WE UNDERSTAND *THEM?* COULD THEY UNDERSTAND *OUR* RADIO MESSAGES?

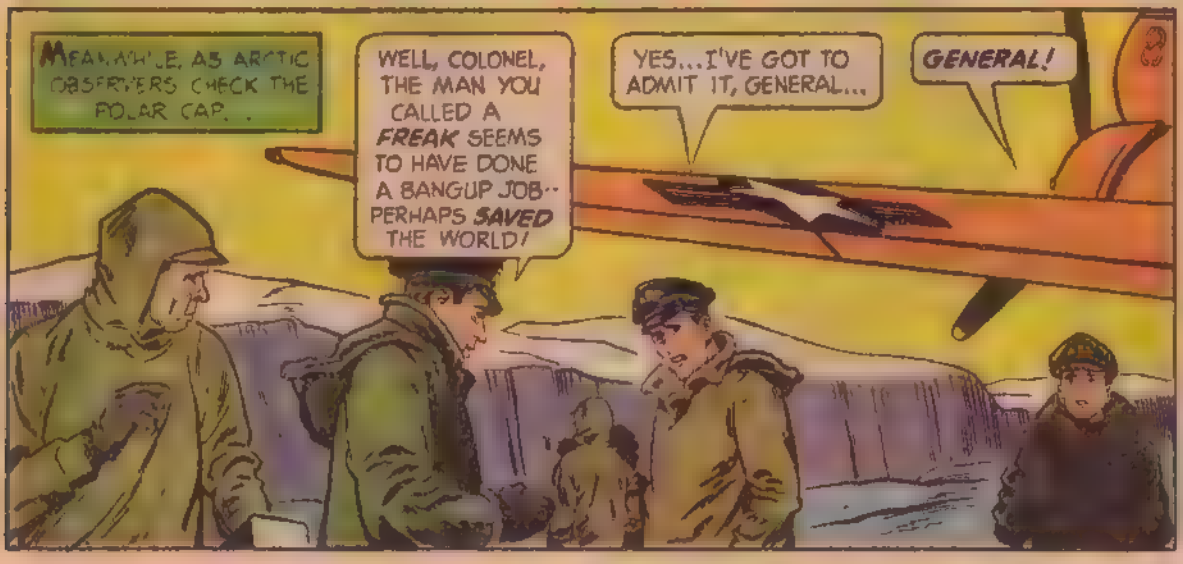

THERE MIGHT WELL BE A WAY-- A *WEDDING* OF TELEVISION AND RADIO SIGNALS! WE COULD TRANSMIT PICTURES *TOGETHER* WITH SIGNALS...


BY SENDING IDENTICAL RADIO SIGNALS OVER AND OVER AGAIN WITH SPECIFIC PICTURES, LIFE OUT THERE (AS WE KNOW IT) SHOULD GRASP THE MEANING...
YES, OVER THE YEARS THEY MIGHT INDEED LEARN TO DISTINGUISH THE MEANING OF THE PICTURES... BUT HERE'S ONE PROBLEM..
WHAT IF THERE SHOULD BE RADIO INTERFERENCE IN SPACE AND PICTURES BECOME DISTORTED!
THEIR RADIO SIGNALS INDICATE EARTH BEINGS ARE FORMED LIKE THAT!
HOW GROTESQUE!
AND THIS UNAPPETIZING APPEARING THING IS THEIR BASIC FOOD!
LOOK--ACCORDING TO THEIR RADIO MESSAGES THESE ARE THE VEHICLES THEY USE FOR TRANSPORTATION!
AND THEY GARNER THEIR LEARNING FROM THIS ROUND OBJECT!

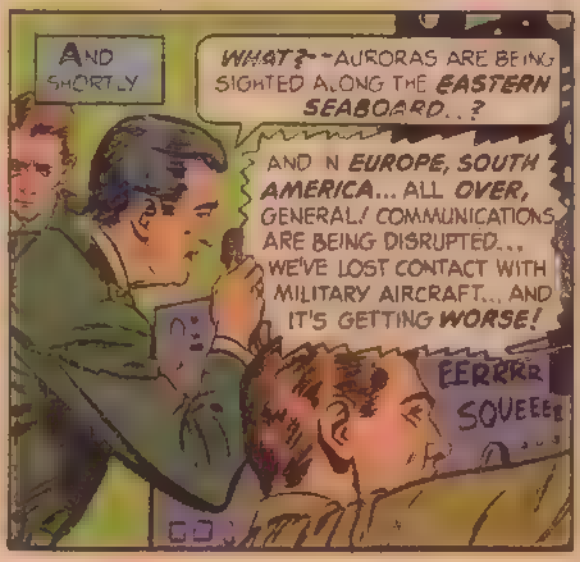
OF COURSE, IT COULD WORK THE OTHER WAY--- WE COULD BE MISINTERPRETING THEIR RADIO SIGNALS.
GREAT GRIEF-- LIFE ON PLUTO IS MADE UP OF MONSTERS!
"THERE WOULD BE NO WAY OF KNOWING THESE WERE DISTORTIONS OF THEIR SIGNALS..."
I-IT'S HOPELESS--WE MUST ABANDON THE PLUTO PROBE! OUR TWO SOCIETIES COULD NEVER LEARN TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER!
TERRIBLE...TERRIBLE! IT'S ALL LIKE A MAD-MAN'S DREAM!
OF COURSE SCIENCE MIGHT BE ABLE TO OVERCOME SUCH DIFFICULTIES BUT... EH, WHAT'S THAT..?
SORRY, PROFESSOR HARBINGER, BUT UNTIL I GET THE NEW ANTENNA UP, YOUR SET WILL BE OUT OF WHACK!
OH, ER HEH, HEH--THAT IS ALL RIGHT, MY MAN!

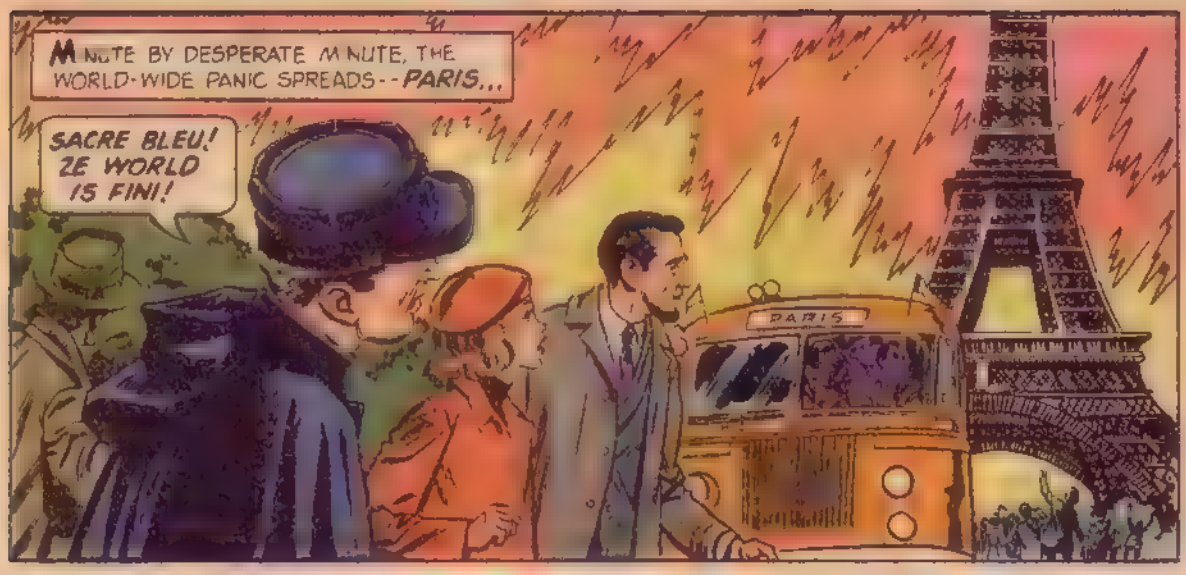

DOCTOR SOLAR
THE SUN GIANT
PART II
AFTER RETURNING FROM THE SUN TO REFREEZE THE ARCTIC POLAR CAP, THE MAN OF THE ATOM LEARNS HE HAS PAID A FEARSOME PRICE...
DON'T PANIC -- YOUR GIGANTIC SIZE IS DUE TO THE FANTASTIC ENERGY OF THE SUN! WE'LL FIND A WAY TO DISSIPATE IT!
PLEASE, LIFT ME UP!
STEADY... STEADY, GAIL--WE MUSTN'T LOSE OUR WITS! BUT WHY... WHY DIDN'T THE FISSURES AT THE POLE LOOK SMALLER TO ME--WHEN I'M THIS SIZE...?
THAT'S BECAUSE THE CRACKS HAD SPREAD --THEY WERE PROBABLY TWENTY TIMES WIDER THAN BEFORE--BUT YOUR MASSIVE SIZE MADE THEM SEEM THE SAME!

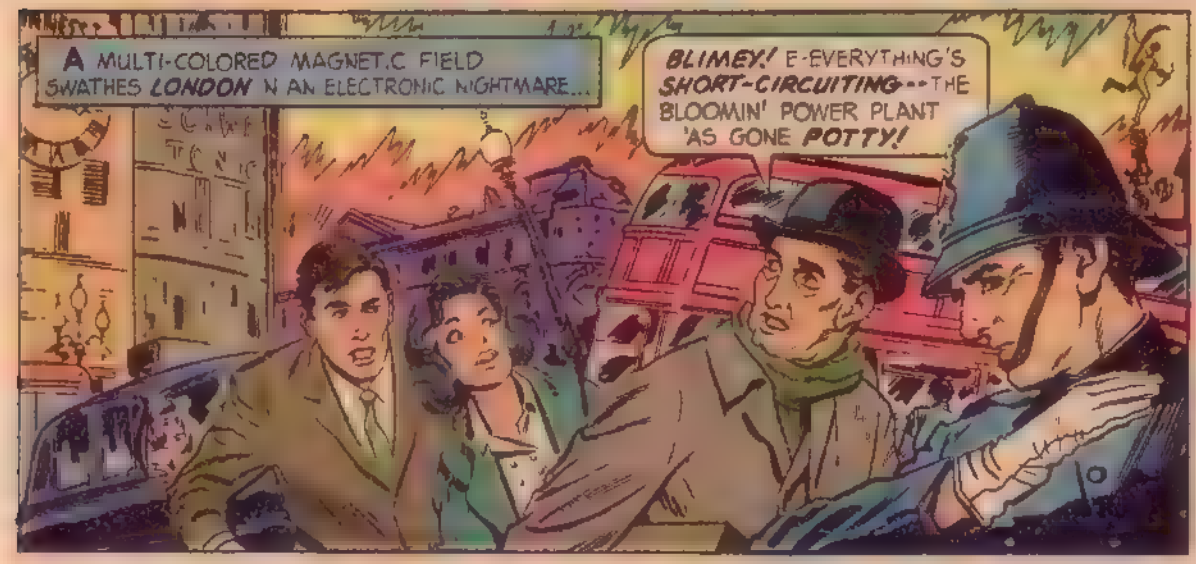

NOW REMAIN CALM UNTIL WE CAN SOLVE YOUR PROBLEM! FIRST, I'LL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR PERSONAL COMFORT!

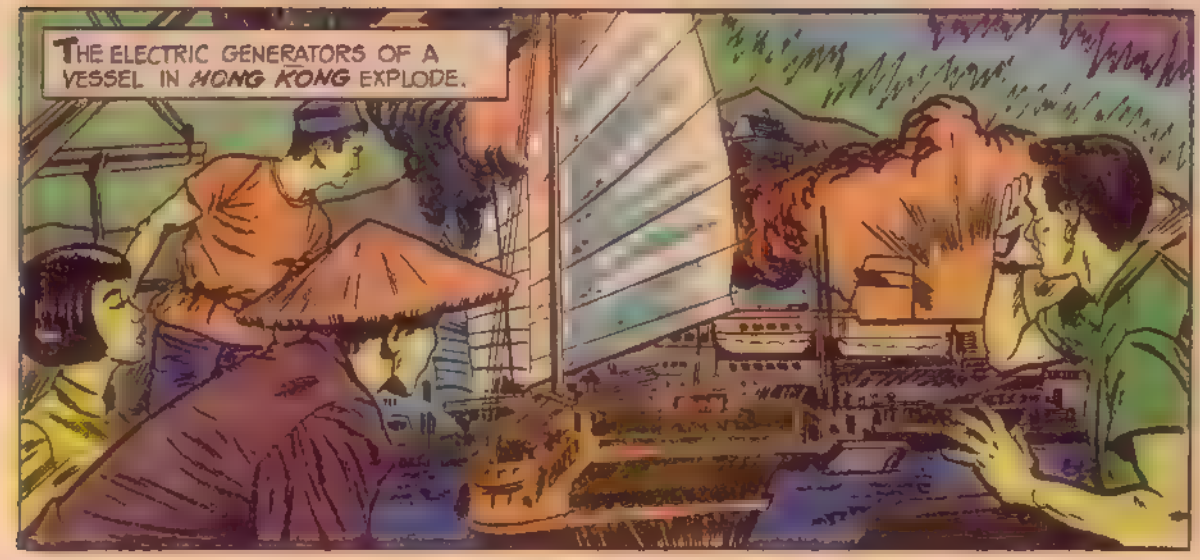

MEANWHILE, AS ARCTIC OBSERVERS CHECK THE POLAR CAP. .
WELL, COLONEL, THE MAN YOU CALLED A FREAK SEEMS TO HAVE DONE A BANGUP JOB-- PERHAPS SAVED THE WORLD!
YES...I'VE GOT TO ADMIT IT, GENERAL...
GENERAL!

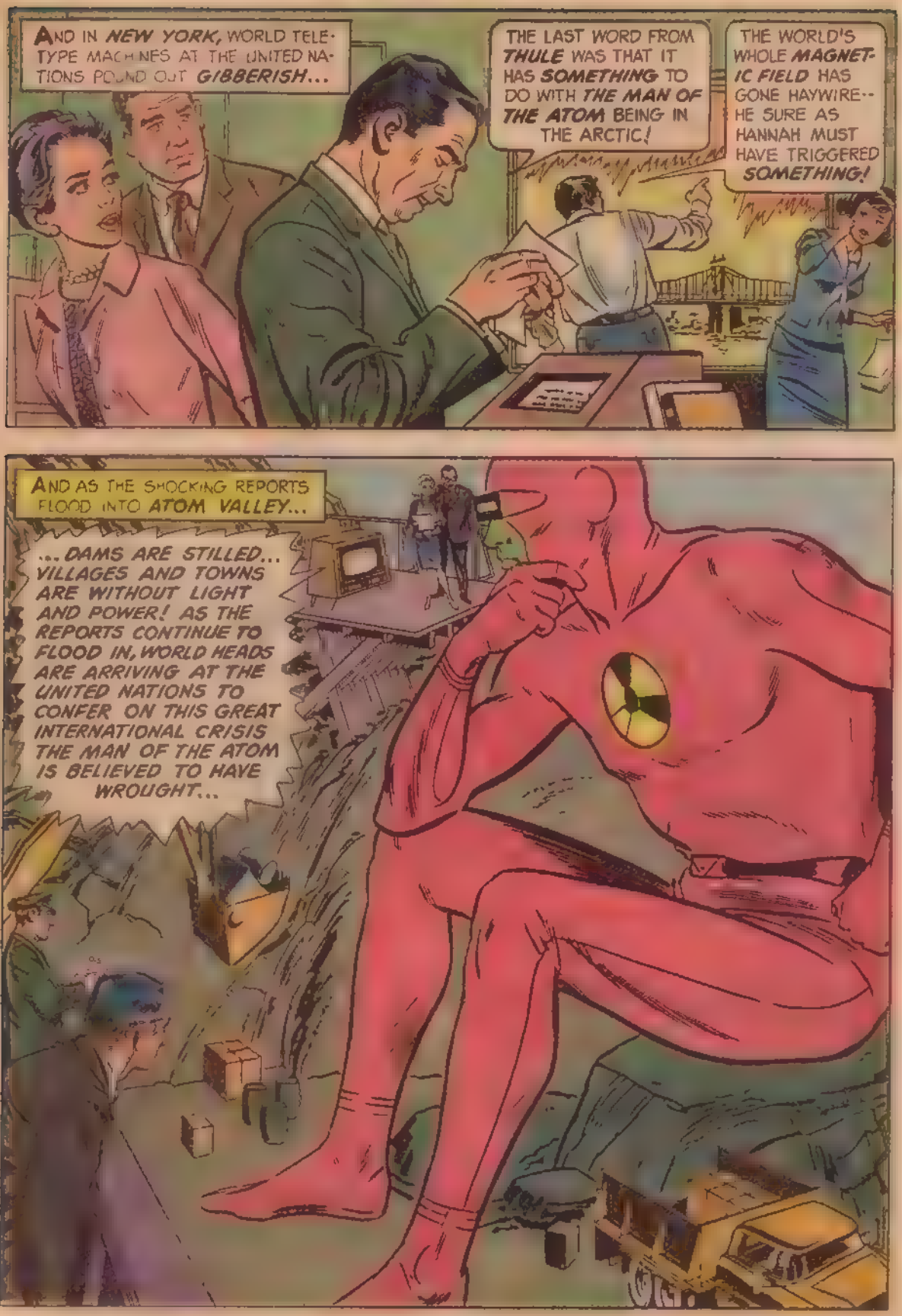
THEY WANT YOU BACK AT HQ AT ONCE, SIR! REPORTS ARE COMING IN FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD--SOMETHING ABOUT THE NORTHERN LIGHTS GOING...BERSERK!
LET'S GO, COLONEL!
YES, SIR!

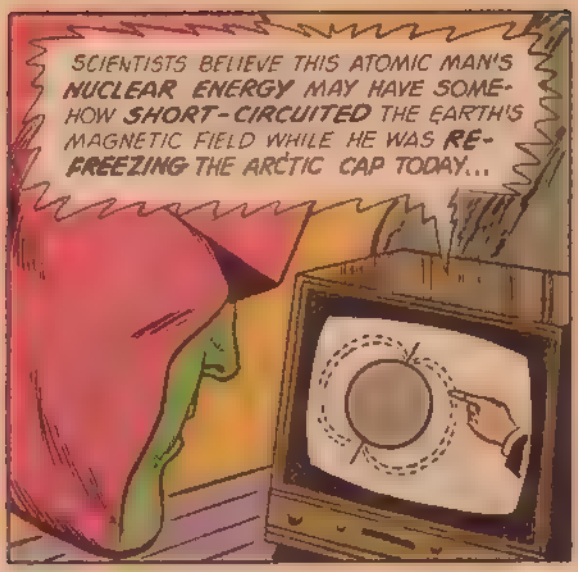

AND SHORTLY
WHAT?--AURORAS ARE BEING SIGHTED ALONG THE EASTERN SEABOARD..?
AND IN EUROPE, SOUTH AMERICA... ALL OVER, GENERAL! COMMUNICATIONS ARE BEING DISRUPTED... WE'VE LOST CONTACT WITH MILITARY AIRCRAFT... AND IT'S GETTING WORSE!
EERRRR
SQUEEEE

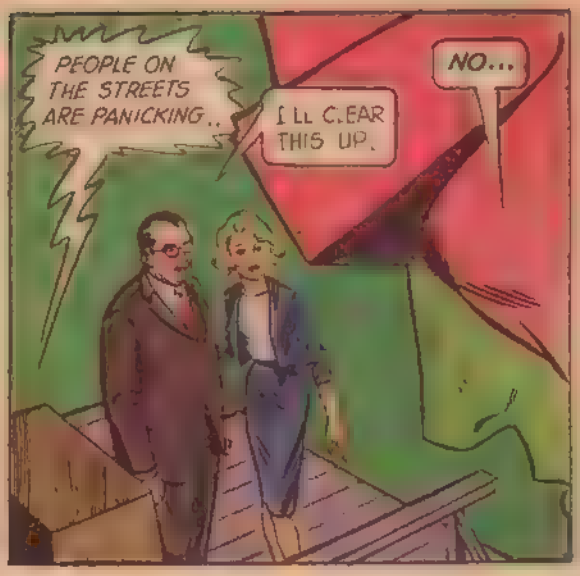

MINUTE BY DESPERATE MINUTE, THE WORLD-WIDE PANIC SPREADS--PARIS...
SACRE BLEU! ZE WORLD IS FINI!
PARIS


A MULTI-COLORED MAGNETIC FIELD SWATHES LONDON IN AN ELECTRONIC NIGHTMARE...
BLIMEY! E-EVERYTHING'S SHORT-CIRCUITING--THE BLOOMIN' POWER PLANT 'AS GONE POTTY!


THE ELECTRIC GENERATORS OF A VESSEL IN HONG KONG EXPLODE.


AND IN NEW YORK, WORLD TELE-TYPE MACHINES AT THE UNITED NATIONS POUND OUT GIBBERISH...
THE LAST WORD FROM THULE WAS THAT IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE MAN OF THE ATOM BEING IN THE ARCTIC!
THE WORLD'S WHOLE MAGNETIC FIELD HAS GONE HAYWIRE-- HE SURE AS HANNAH MUST HAVE TRIGGERED SOMETHING!
AND AS THE SHOCKING REPORTS FLOOD INTO ATOM VALLEY...
...DAMS ARE STILLED... VILLAGES AND TOWNS ARE WITHOUT LIGHT AND POWER! AS THE REPORTS CONTINUE TO FLOOD IN, WORLD HEADS ARE ARRIVING AT THE UNITED NATIONS TO CONFER ON THIS GREAT INTERNATIONAL CRISIS THE MAN OF THE ATOM IS BELIEVED TO HAVE WROUGHT...

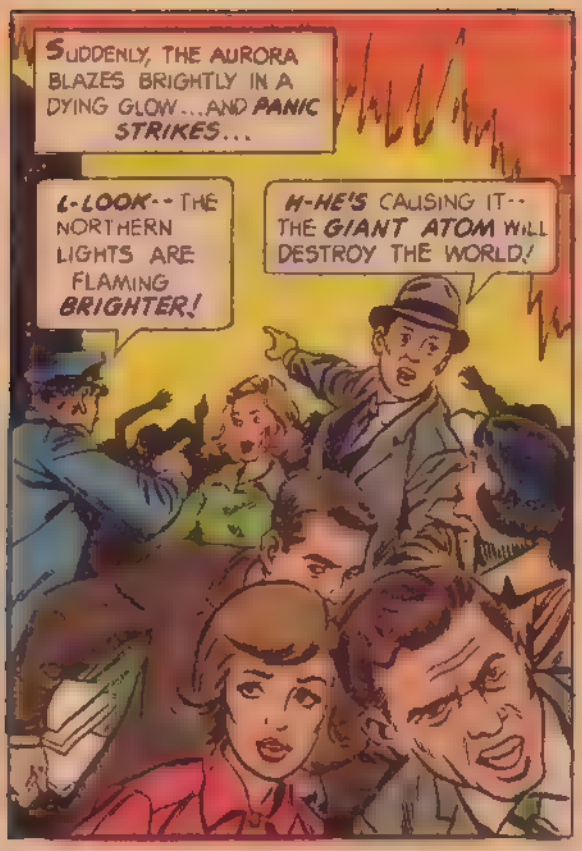

SCIENTISTS BELIEVE THIS ATOMIC MAN'S NUCLEAR ENERGY MAY HAVE SOMEHOW SHORT-CIRCUITED THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD WHILE HE WAS RE-FREEZING THE ARCTIC CAP TODAY...


PEOPLE ON THE STREETS ARE PANICKING..
I'LL CLEAR THIS UP.
NO...

I MUST BE AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN PERSON--IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO CONVINCE THE WORLD IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO TRIGGER SUCH A ..CATASTROPHE!
WILL THEY BELIEVE YOU?

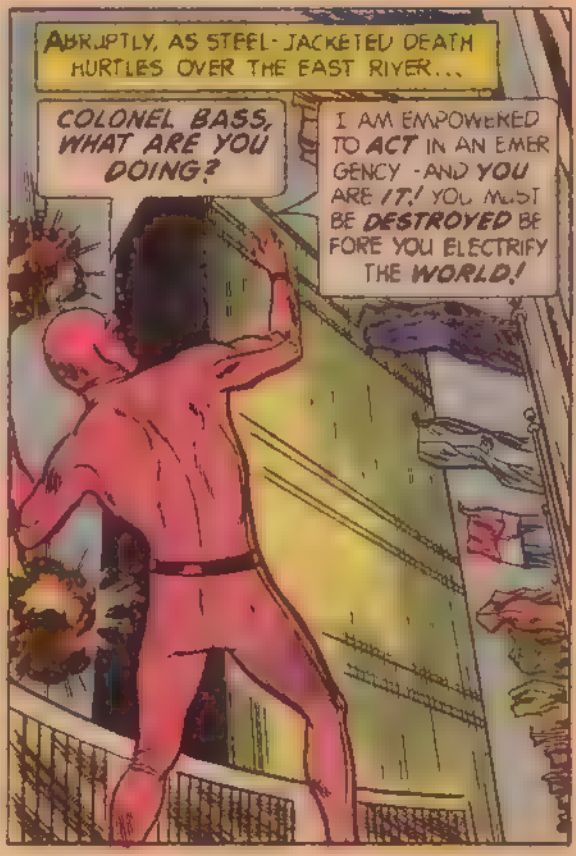
AN EYE WINK LATER, A NUCLEAR GLOW CLASHES WITH THE BIZARRE NORTHERN LIGHTS OVER THE UNITED NATIONS...
GREAT GRIEF! IT'S THAT MAN OF THE ATOM-- HE'S TEN TIMES NORMAL SIZE!

A HUSH FALLS OVER THE CITY . THE GREAT AND THE SMALL LISTEN AS THE MAN WHO HAS BEFRIENDED THEM SO OFTEN SPEAKS..
PILOT--SET DOWN ON THE ROOF OF THE U.N. BUILDING!
YES, SIR, COLONEL BASS.
PLEASE LISTEN TO ME, ALL OF YOU--THE OCCURRENCE THAT MADE ME DIFFERENT... EMPOWERED ME WITH SUCH NUCLEAR FORCES, WILL NEVER GIVE YOU CAUSE FOR CONCERN...
I HAVE THESE STRANGE POWERS UNDER CONTROL AT EVERY MOMENT! THIS STRANGE AND, YES, TERRIBLE GIFT FATE GAVE ME WAS MEANT TO BENEFIT HUMANITY...NOT IMPERIL IT!

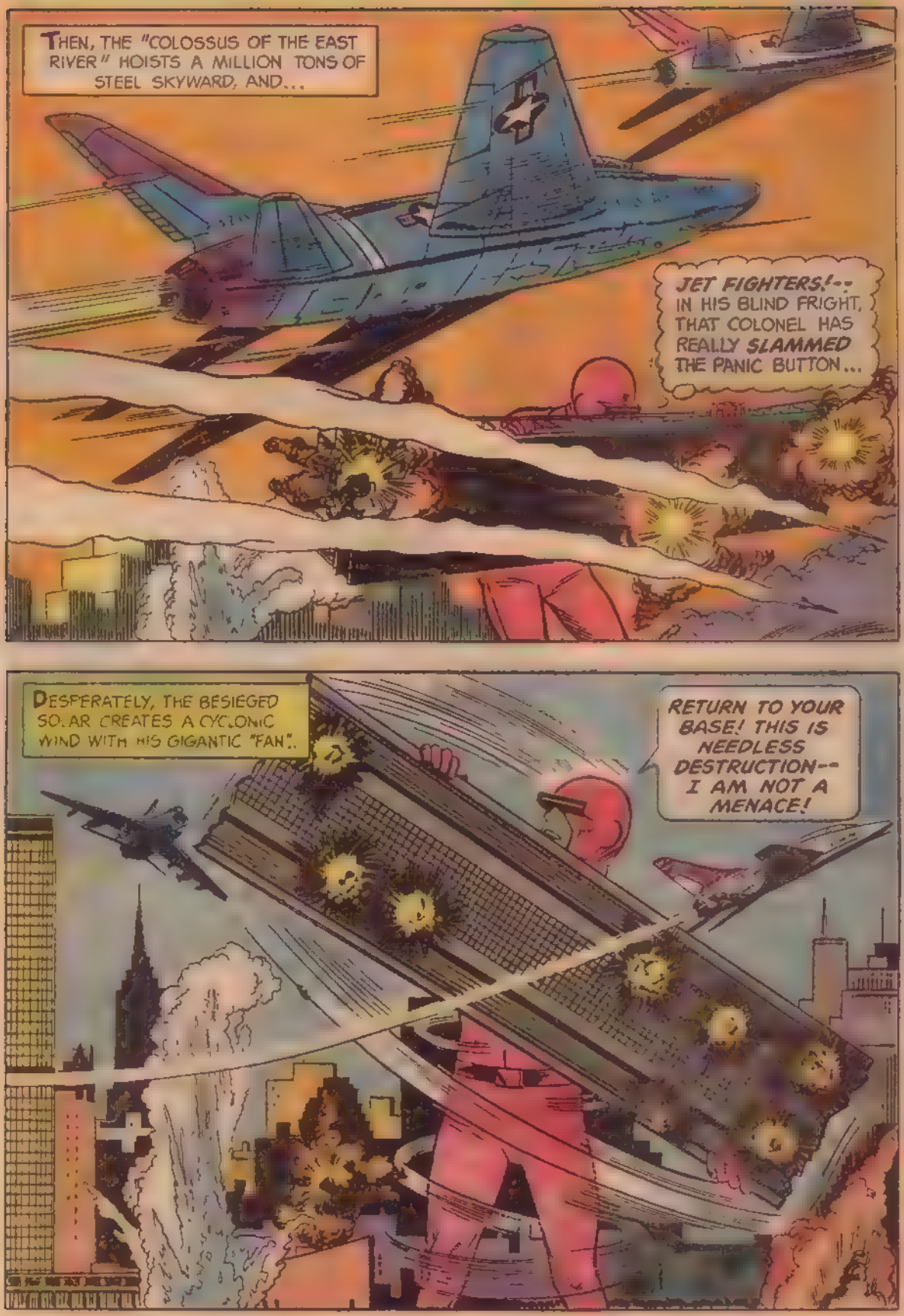

SUDDENLY, THE AURORA BLAZES BRIGHTLY IN A DYING GLOW...AND PANIC STRIKES...
L-LOOK--THE NORTHERN LIGHTS ARE FLAMING BRIGHTER!
H-HE'S CAUSING IT--THE GIANT ATOM WILL DESTROY THE WORLD!

AND ATOP THE U.N., AS THE LIGHT FADES.
THERE'S A DESTROYER DOCKED AT THE BROOKLYN NAVY YARD--WE'LL USE HER GUNS!
Y-YOU'RE GOING TO FIRE ON HIM, COLONEL..? --BUT THE LIGHTS HAVE VANISHED NOW!

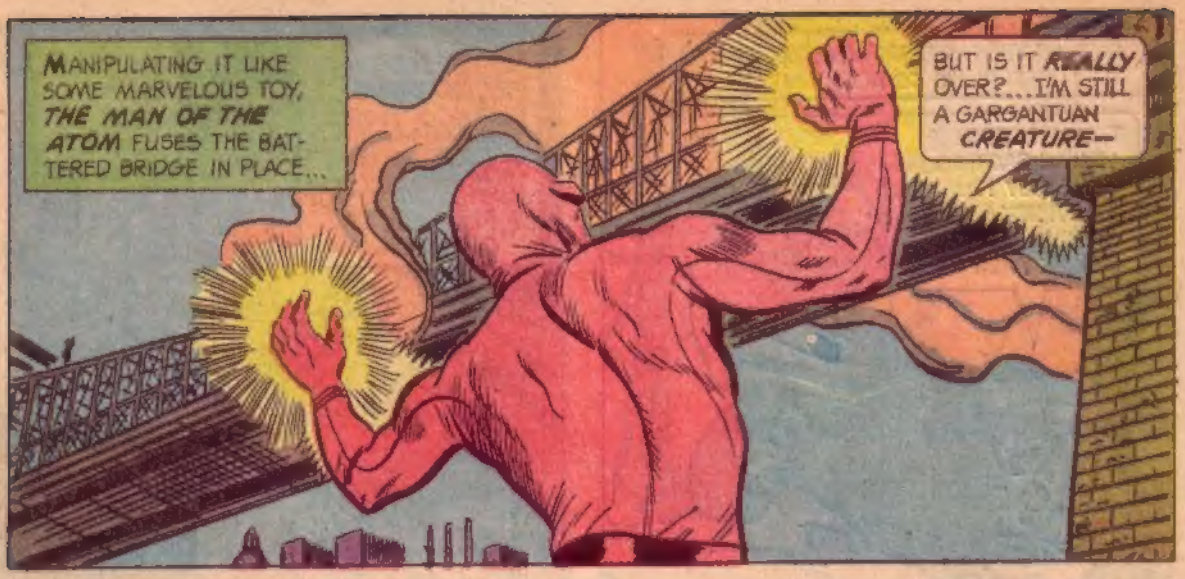
DON'T BE A FOOL--IT'S PROBABLY ONE OF HIS TRICKS! IT'S MY DUTY TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS!...
--COMMENCE FIRING!

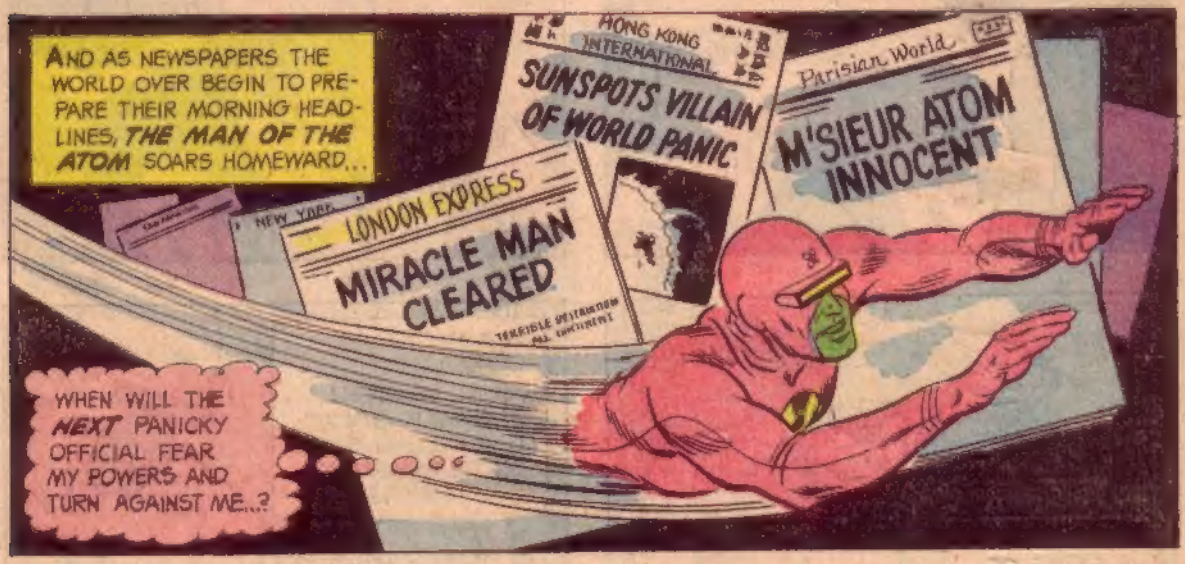

ABRUPTLY, AS STEEL-JACKETED DEATH HURTLES OVER THE EAST RIVER...
COLONEL BASS, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I AM EMPOWERED TO ACT IN AN EMERGENCY -AND YOU ARE IT! YOU MUST BE DESTROYED BEFORE YOU ELECTRIFY THE WORLD!

QUICKLY, THE MAN OF THE ATOM CONVERTS HIS MASSIVE ENERGY INTO ATOMIC HEAT, AND
THE FEAR OF MY ATOMIC POWER AND GREAT SIZE HAS CREATED A FORM OF... MASS INSANITY!--
I-I'VE GOT TO PREVENT THE ENTIRE CITY FROM BEING DEVASTATED!
THE QUEENSBORO BRIDGE IS CLEARED... IT MAY HELP...
ACT AS A SHIELD TO CATCH SOME OF THE SHELLS!


THEN, THE "COLOSSUS OF THE EAST RIVER" HOISTS A MILLION TONS OF STEEL SKYWARD, AND...
JET FIGHTERS!-- IN HIS BLIND FRIGHT, THAT COLONEL HAS REALLY SLAMMED THE PANIC BUTTON...
DESPERATELY, THE BESIEGED SOLAR CREATES A CYCLONIC WIND WITH HIS GIGANTIC "FAN"..
RETURN TO YOUR BASE! THIS IS NEEDLESS DESTRUCTION-- I AM NOT A MENACE!

MEANWHILE, AT ATOM VALLEY, DR CLARKSON IS BURNING UP THE WIRE TO WASHINGTON
PROOF POSITIVE HAS COME FROM A DOZEN SCIENTISTS, MR. PRESIDENT--SUNSPOTS CAUSED THE ELECTRICAL STORM OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS!
THEY ARE EXTRA-HOT GASES THAT BOIL UP AND CAST ELECTRIC CURRENTS INTO THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE! PLEASE... ISSUE A CEASE FIRE AT ONCE! THE MAN OF THE ATOM IS NOT TO BLAME!
AND SCANT SECONDS LATER...
STOP FIRING!--AN ORDER FROM THE WHITE HOUSE... SUNSPOTS CAUSED THE TROUBLE, NOT THE MAN OF THE ATOM!
B-BUT...
ORDER A CEASE FIRE, YOU HARE-BRAINED HOTHEAD--OR I'LL REPORT YOU MENTALLY UNFIT FOR DUTY AND DO IT MYSELF!
AND AS A CEASE FIRE ECHOES ACROSS THE BATTLE-TORN ISLAND OF MANHATTAN...
CEASE FIRE-- CEASE FIRE!
MAN OF ATOM INNOCENT--DO NOT ATTACK!
SUNSPOTS CAUSE OF CATASTROPHE!
IT'S .. OVER!


MANIPULATING IT LIKE SOME MARVELOUS TOY, THE MAN OF THE ATOM FUSES THE BATTERED BRIDGE IN PLACE...
BUT IS IT REALLY OVER?...I'M STILL A GARGANTUAN CREATURE—


AND AS NEWSPAPERS THE WORLD OVER BEGIN TO PREPARE THEIR MORNING HEADLINES, THE MAN OF THE ATOM SOARS HOMEWARD...
HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL
SUNSPOTS VILLAIN OF WORLD PANIC
Parisian World
M'SIEUR ATOM INNOCENT
LONDON EXPRESS
MIRACLE MAN CLEARED
WHEN WILL THE NEXT PANICKY OFFICIAL FEAR MY POWERS AND TURN AGAINST ME...?

A HEARTBEAT LATER, AT ATOM VALLEY...
H-HE'S BACK, DR. CLARKSON ...HURRY!

AND AS THE DEJECTED NUCLEAR GIANT GREETS HIS CO-WORKERS...
THANK GOODNESS, YOU'RE BACK, SOLAR --WE SAW IT ALL ON TELEVISION! WHY... I THINK YOU'VE SHRUNK A LITTLE...
YES, I NOTICED IT, GAIL...
AFTER ALL THAT TREMENDOUS OUTLAY OF ENERGY I'VE LOST ONLY TWO FEET IN HEIGHT! WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM, DR. CLARKSON...
ONE THAT CAN BE BEATEN, SOLAR...
WE'LL SET UP A SERIES OF POWER "EXERCISES" THAT WILL GRADUALLY DISSIPATE THE TREMENDOUS SOLAR ENERGY STORED UP INSIDE YOU!
IN A MATTER OF WEEKS OR MONTHS YOU'LL BE SMALL ENOUGH TO PUNCH THAT COLONEL BASS ON THE NOSE! ROGER, SOLAR?
THAT'S A-OKAY, SIR--LET'S SHAKE ON IT!

KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

WILD ANIMALS of ASIA

NUMBER 5

IBEX

This is one of a series of information features in Gold Key Comics. Collect the whole series for useful knowledge.

The Asiatic ibex, a family of wild goats, lives in the mountain well above the line of the perpetual mountain snow.

Their graceful, backward-sweeping horns are as much as 60 inches long. The male Asiatic Ibex is always bearded.

Herds post sentinels to watch for danger. At the sentinels signal the entire herd and the lone ibex guard rushes for safety.

The Asiatic Ibex is extremely sure-footed. He can leap a 40-foot cliff with ease and land safely on a narrow ledge below.

Wild dogs and snow leopards are the most dreaded enemies of the Ibex. His horns protect him very well when attacked.

SOLAR PIN-UP